



High School Lesson Plans

Proclaim Good News

◀ Lesson One *Good News and Bad News?*

Objective: To help students distinguish between good and bad news stories and how to respond to these accordingly.

Preparation: Each student will need a Bible and *Activity 1* sheet.

Process: Begin by sharing about *National Vocation Awareness Week* and its relation to the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. (See introductory information on page one of these lesson plans.) Select four students to read the Sunday readings (Isaiah 42:1–4, 6–7; Psalm 29:1–4; 3:9–10; Acts 10:34–38 and Mark 1:7–11). Ask students to listen carefully to each of the readings. “As you hear the readings, what are you thinking and feeling?” At the conclusion of the readings, distribute *Activity 1*. Allow 5 minutes for journaling (Part One). Invite students to share responses to the readings. Complete Part Two. Use KWL (What do we **know**? What do we **want** to know? What have we **learned**?). Invite responses. As Jesus was baptized, he gained a sense of his mission to proclaim the Good News in a world of good and bad news. We also live in a time of good news and bad news. Ask students to give examples of both. Complete Part Three. Discuss responses in groups of 4. Choose two students to record responses on the board. Ask for an example of a good news story from each group and one bad news story. Ask, “How do we respond to bad news?” Invite responses. Invite students to think about what we, as baptized Christians, can do to help. End with students’ journaling.

◀ Lesson Two *How do we proclaim the Good News in our lives?*

Objective: To help students respond to the Good News and to identify concrete examples of people who proclaim the Good News in their lives.

Preparation: Make copies of *Activity 2*. If possible make copies of the prayer card from the *NVAW kit* or you can purchase other prayer cards from the *National Coalition for Church Vocations* (www.nccv-vocations.org/773.955.5453).



Process: Distribute *Activity 2*. Ask students to journal individually in Part One. In small groups of four, compile a list of people who proclaim the Good News by their words and deeds. In a class discussion, list the people who proclaim the Good News by their words and deeds. Include in your list groups of people (e.g. priests, brothers, sisters, deacons, parents, families, etc.). Now that they have identified the good works of others, invite students to think about what they can do to make a difference? Have students brainstorm a list of activities that they can do to proclaim the Good News in their lives. Use *Activity 2*, Part Two. Ask students to create a website (*Activity 2*, Part Three) —a teenager’s version of the Good News. “What would you include?” Conclude with the Vocation Prayer from the NVAW kit. Invite a priest, sister or brother to talk about how they proclaim Good News in their lives or have students interview someone and report back to the class. Invite students to prepare interview questions in advance. Contact local vocation office for assistance.